THE JEHAD.

SIDI MAHOMET EL SENOUSSI'S HOLY WAR.

By far the most important news that has reached this country in the last week has been the dispatch sent by the unusually well-informed correspondent of "The London Times" at Constantinople to the effect that there is some kind of an understanding between the Yildiz Kiosk or Imperial Palace, at Stamboul, and the Dervish leaders in the Soudan. "The Times" correspondent, who in this as in most other matters may be regarded as the mouthpiece of the British Embassy on the Bosphorus, adds that negotiations have been in progress for nearly a year between the Sultan and Osman Digna, a one-armed French renegade, who is the principal lieutenant of the Soudanese Mahdi and, as his most able and successful general, selected to command the Dervish army organized for the invasion of The importance of this news lies in the fact that it goes to confirm the impression which has existed for some time among those most intimately acquainted with Oriental affairs that the so-called Mahdist movement has ceased to be a purely local affair, but extends far beyoud the boundaries of the Soudan. This is the meaning of the "Jehad" or Holy War which the Mahdi has proclaimed at Omdurmann. That he would not and could not have taken this step of his own accord, and upon his own responsibility, is rendered manifest by the fact that neither the former Mahdi, who destroyed Khartoum ten years ago, nor yet his successor, the present Mahdi, has until now ventured to issue any proclamation. That they should waited all these years, refraining from any appeal to their co-religionists, even at the moment when their very existence was threatened by Lord Wolseley's abortive Nile campaign in 1884-1885, shows more clearly than anything else that they have been waiting for the word from the great chief, the Sheik el Senoussi, whose humble servants they have been, and still are. This Sheik el Senoussi is the most important personage in the Mahometan world. He is regarded with such veneration by the followers of the Prophet that, like Moses of old when he descended from the Mount, he never appears otherwise than veiled, lest those who approach him should be dezzled by the divine radiancy of his features. The chief of all the Dervishes of the Mahometan faith, and occupying a position similar to but infinitely more influential than the General of the Order of the Jesuits, his power extends from the most western point of Morocco to the Mahometan provinces of China and of Java, the principal chaplain and spiritual adviser of the Sultan at Constantinople being one of his most trusted dervishes or monks, if I may be permitted the expression ir connection with a Mahometan.

THE MAHOMETAN MESSIAH.

According to Koranic prophecy and Mussulman tradition, the great revival of the Mahometan faith is to be brought about by a Mahdi or Messiah, who was to make his appearance in the 1300th year of the Hegira-that is, A. D. 1883. His father's name was to be Mahomet, his mother's Fatima. Sidi Mahomet el Senoussi fulfils all these conditions. He attained his majority in 1883, and before the death in that year of his father, the founder of the great Senoussi Order, was solemnly proclaimed by the latter as the true Messiah or el Mahdi, by which appellation he is now known throughout the Mahometan world. It may be urged that since the Senoussi claims to be the true Mahdi, there can be no co-operation on his part with the Soudanese Mahdi. This is a mistake. The Koran distinctly states that several Mahdis will arise simultaneously with the chief one, but that they will all in the end submit to the latter. It has been with the object of verifying a struggle with civilized nations; their sole aim this prophecy that Senoussi has called forth during the past decade Mahdis in the Yemen, Hedjaz in Syria, in the Mahometan provinces of China, as well as at Omdurmann. That the Mahdi on the Nile is in everything subservient to the Senoussi is shown by a number of things. In the first place Gordon's slayer, Mahomet Achmet el Mahdi, and his successor have both belonged to the Sidi-Abd-el Kadr el Djilani fraternity, which is one of the most direct affiliations of the Senoussi Order, and entirely subject and obedient to the Senoussi el Mahdi. hen, too, Mahomet Achmet did not claim to be the true Mahdi, but merely the forerunner, the St. John the Baptist of the Mussulman Messiah, and finally, four of the chief leaders of the Mahdist Army at Omdurmann are ex-colonels who, compromised in the Arabi insurrection at Cairo in 1882, fled after their defeat at the battle of Tel-el-Kebr across the Lybian desert to Jerboub, whence, after remaining with el Senoussi for a couple of years, they proceeded to join the Soudanese Mahdi at Omdurmann on the Nile. One of them, Mahomet Pacha-el-Beit, the former Governor of Suez, now commands the artillery, which comprises a large number of Krupp guns.

LIKE A FORTIFIED CONVENT.

Jerboub, the headquarters and stronghold of Senoussi el Mahdi, situated latitude 30, longitude 24:20, on the shores of Lake Faregda in the southeastern portion of Tripoli, and founded in 1861 by the father and founder of the Senoussi Order, is said to resemble an immense fortified convent. Even ten years ago it had sixteen big guns, purchased at Alexandria, and several large factories, where gunpowder was produced and small arms, obtained in Egypt, remounted and repaired. In February last the number of big guns had increased to over one hundred, and there were, besides, twenty mitrailleuses of German manufacture. According to trustworthy information, two Italian and three Austrian vessels anchored in the months of June and July last in the Mediterranean port of Tabrouk, which belongs to the order, laden with arms, shot and shell, which were immediately forwarded over the 200 kilometres of desert separating the port from Jerboub. There are also at the latter place a splendid library. transported thither from Mecca, the former headquarters of the fraternity; stables containing over 4,000 horses, magnificent reservoirs and plantations, etc. According to the distinguished French author Duveyrier, the bodyguard of the master, who lives there, consists of over 3,000 Algerians. Fortified convents and stations, but on a less extensive scale, exist near Siwah, in the oasis of Jupiter Ammon, at the important oasis of Farafra, and at about other places, mostly in the various cases of the Lybian Desert, while 500 or 600 of these centres of action are known to be in existence in Turkey, Tripoli, Tunis, Algeria, Morooco, the Hedjaz, India, Yemen, Afghanistan, Somali Coast, and, in fact, wherever the Mahometan religion has taken root, in Central Africa especially, at such places as Timbuctoo and in the kingdom of the Wadal. The agents of the order at Alexandria are well

krown-moreover, it has its representatives at Constantinople and in France. To give one solltary instance of the activity of these agents, I may state that during the Commune one of the Senoussi stationed at Paris managed to purloin from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in the Quai d'Orsay, a document of a compromising nature, stamped with the seal of the chiefs of the Touareg of R'dames tribe, who, like most of the other edouin and desert tribes in Northern Africa and Arabia, rank among the most fervent adherents of the order. The administration of the affairs of the order is confided to four "wuzeers" or ministers, living at Jerboub, and acting under the immediate direction of the grand master, who is supreme. The members of the order, whose names are carefully registered, owe abso-

a soldier, a brigand, or even an assassin. For just as in the case of certain religious orders of Europe, so it is with the Senoussi-le but justifie les moyens-and they have recourse even to the most outrageous means to attain the object they keep in view. The grand master, who styles himself, among other things, the "Khahifa" or lieutenant of God, corresponds with his subordinates by means of relays of special messengers, who in very confidential cases convey verbal nessages only. To such a perfection are the means of communication carried among the Arabs that the Bedouins of the Pyramids of seh announced the massacre of Colonel Stewart's party at Merawi and the fall of Khartoum nearly a week before the official news of it reached Cairo. In the same way the bombardment of Berber, the surrender of Tokar, and the massacre at Sinkat were known in the bazaars of Cairo long before the official news was received by the Anglo-Egyptian authorities.

THE INVITATION INTO THE ORDER. "Thou shalt be in the hands of Sidi Mahomet as a dead body in the hands of a corpse washer."

Such is the form of initiation into the Senoussi order, which, as stated above, surpasses in point

latter is defiled by the bones of animals, killed by unbelievers, which are used to refine it. Members of the order are forbidden to speak salute or trade with or serve either Jews or Christians, and, according to the precepts contained in a sermon preached in March, 1861, by Hadj Ahmed Ben Bel-Kasen, mokkadem of the town of Rhat, any Jew or Christian who is no longer a rayah-that is to say, who is no longer subject to a Mahometan government-because an adversary whom it is lawful, nay, whom it is necessary, to rob and kill at all times and in all places. The members of the order who possess a capital of over £5 pay annually 21/2 per cent thereon into the treasury, which receives in addition vast donations of cattle, lands, slaves and money. The Turkish, Egyptian and Tunisian governments have been most liberal in granting it subsidies, lands and fiscal immunities.

I have frequently heard it said that the Grand Master of the Senoussi was so much interested in commercial undertakings of all kinds that he had neither inclination nor any kind of inducement to adopt a militant policy. This is a grave misapprehension. Sheikh Senoussi, who



ONE OF THE MAHDI'S BODY-GUARD.

ety of Jesus, even in the palmiest days of that | the order, has been sagacious enough to perfraternity. The Grand Master of the Senoussi coive that commerce and trade constitute the beasts that he has at his command about 30,- most powerful means of extension of influence 900,000 Mahometans, that is, over a third of the all the world over. When the ill-advised proc total number of the faithful. The greater por- lamation concerning the abandonment of the tion of these, being more or less subject to Chris- Soudan was issued just a year ago, the Grand tian powers, dream of nothing but of the univer- | Master immediately took steps to attract, via sal empire promised by the Koran. The feeling | Jerboub, Tibrouk and Tripoli, the vast Central of intense hatred against the Christian is deeply African trade which formerly, making its way engrafted in their hearts, and whether latent or | down the Nile and being a source of wealth to irruptive, the work which goes on in connection therewith is continuous and lasting. They are at | outlet at Alexandria. For Egypt is but a pays any moment prepared to selze the opportunity of | de transit. One-half of its immense prosperity is a holy war, with neither truce nor mercy. Chinese trade, which was destroyed by the against the unbelievers and against all these who ovenant with the infidel.

The order was founded only sixty years ago, by an Algerian of the tribe of Medjaher, named Mahomet Ben Ali-es-Senoussi. At an early age he adopted the philosophical tenets of the Chad-



A BAGGARA HORSEMAN.

helistic school, which has much of the Wahabi doctrines about it. On the death of Sheikh Ahmed Ben Edris, who was the chief of the school in question, Senoussi, who had been his favorite disciple, was appointed to succeed him, and soon evolved, partly out of the Koran, and partly from his meditations a purified kind of Chadhelism, which he caused to be adopted by the members of the sect as being the true and reformed Islamism, cleansed from all the superstitions and unorthodox practices which twelve centuries of theologians had grafted on to it. DOCTRINE OF THE CREED.

doctrine of this most intolerant of all reformed creeds is pretty much as follows: In the first place, the glorification of God, who alone is to be worshipped. L'ving saints may be



A SOUDANESE SHEIKH

venerated, but this veneration must cease immediately they die, and no pligrimages to their tombs nor invocation of their names in prayer are permitted. The Prophet Mahomet is no exception to the rule, although admitted to have been the most perfect of humankind. Unquestioning obedience is strictly enjoined, and even the Sultan and all other chiefs of Mahometan States must conform to the precepts of

various presperous riverside towns, found an in former times was due to the Indian and opening of the Sucz Canal; the other half was wing to the transit trade with Central Africa and Soudan, which England has, de gaieté de coeur, ruined by proclaiming the abandonment

DEVOTED TO THE SHEIKH SENOUSSI. Again, in the case of the kingdom of Wadal, a country with 3,000,000 inhabitants, west of Darfur, and with mineral and natural wealth and resources of all kinds, which had long been closed to foreign trade, Senoussi's agents managed to ingratiate themselves to attract the entire commerce of the country to find an outlet via Serhboub and Tripoli. The whole of the Wadai is now absolutely devoted to the Sheikh Senoussi, who receives frequently vast caravans of slaves as presents from the king to himself and for export. In fact, Turkey, Persia, etc., obtain all their black slaves via Serhboub and the port of Tebrouk, the king of Wadai being the great provider of that kind of merchandise. The "Jehad" or Holy War, so long looked for

by the followers of the Prophet, and which not even the Turkish Sultan, in the hours of their greatest danger, had dared to call forth, has at length been proclaimed by the orders of the only man who, according to Korante tradition and prophecy, is qualified to take such a step, namely the Mahometan Messiah, Schoussi el Mahdi. Not the least remarkable feature in the affair is the deliberation and the regard to the situation in Europe with which every move leading up to the climax has been made by the master mind at Jerbhoub. It was the Surreme Chief of the Senoussi who instigated the Arabi rebellion at Cairo and Alexandria in 1882, and it was he, too, who conceived and originated the revolt of the Soudan a few months later, Mohamed Achiret, the Omdurman Dervish, commencing the insurrection with the great Bagarra tribe shortly after reaching the Nile from Jerbhoub. There are few Englishmen who possess a more profound knowledge of the Mahometan world, alike in India and Arabia, than Wilfred Blunt, diplomat, explorer, and married to the granddaughter of the great poet, Lord Byron. In a letter dated December 16, 1884, to the president of the International Peace Association, and written at Cairo, he lays particular stress upon the fact and declares that "the movement in the Scudan, which has been so much understood, is identical with that headed here at Cairo by Arabi."

Certain it is that no more propitious moment in all the last sixteen or twenty years could have been selected for the proclamation of a Holy War. What the immediate outcome or ultimate result of the declaration of the Jehad is likely to be, it is impossible as yet to predict. But one thing may safely be taken for granted, namely, that no matter how vast may be the fierce and fanatic Dervish horde which marches on Cairo, either down the Nile from Berber or dashes across the relatively narrow slip of desert separating Khartoum from Dongola, it will be among the least of the perils that at the present hour menace England, and incidentally civiliza-EX-ATTACHE. tion.

A NEW USE FOR PINE NEEDLES.

A novel use has been found for the pine needles mported from the South. The stiff, slender spines are subjected to a chemical process which preserves their firmness, are dyed, and then used to

make aigrettes for women's hats.

Large quantities of the scrub palmetto, the native grasses, pine boughs, tropical leaves, moss and ther productions of the Southern woods are annually brought to New-York and used for decorative purposes. The scrub paimetto, which grows both in the marsh and in the sand, is not as handsome as the cultivated palm, but is luxuriant and green, and can be mixed in with other foliage to good effect. A good deal of it goes to Germany, where it is treated according to the system used there, and comes back in the guise of the "prepared plant." Certain qualities inherent in this common itte and unquestioning obedience to the mokkadem, i. e., the rector of the community or of the
convent of the district. The mokkadem is, in his
turn, subject to the aghn, or dean, whose immediate superior is the vakil, or apostolic prefect of
the province. Every member of the crder becomes ipso facto a kind of missionary, who only
awaits a sign from his chief to become a preacher,

etan States must conform to the precepts of
Islamism as interpreted by the order, at the risk
of hostility against them being declared as jusimprovement on the entirely artificial substitute
which masquerades in the florist' windows of the
East Side. People of means, who might secure the
genuine, sometimes appear to derive pleasure from
the province. Every member of the crder bebacco and coffee are likewise severely prohibited. Tea is allowed, but it must be sweetened
ited. Tea is allowed, but it must be sweetened
with brown sugar, and not with white, for the plant."

RISING OUT OF THE RUINS.

RESTORATION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA ROTUNDA.

THE EXTERIOR TO BE REPLACED AS JEFFERSON CONSTRUCTED IT-THE PHYSICAL AND MECHANICAL LABORATORIES AND OTHER NEW BUILDINGS,

Charlottesville, Va., March 28 (Special).-The

plans for the restoration of the rotunda of the University of Virginia and the erection of the new buildings have been completed and accepted, and the architects, Messrs. McKim, Mead & White, of New-York City, are now at work upon the drawings for the details and specifications The contracts will be let in a short time, and the work pushed to completion as rapidly as possible. The rotunda was modelled upon the Roman Pantheon, with slight modifications. Externally the porticoes were raised so as to have fourteen instead of five steps, and the proportions modifled so as to give a loftler and airier structure. Internally, the single great apartment open in the Pantheon from the portice floor to the crown of the dome was subdivided by an intermediate floor; the upper apartment was assigned to the users of the university library, the lower floor was subdivided and furnished two large lecturerooms and the faculty room, the basement floor being subdivided in the same way.

Reasons of sentiment would point to the restoration of the interior exactly as it stood, but the Board of Visitors, knowing that Jefferson's reason for dividing the rotunda into two stories was only one of practical necessity, has adopted the recommendation of the architects of throw ing the interior from the portico floor to the dome into a single room, the duplicate of the interior of the great original; while the exterior will be replaced as Jefferson constructed it. This room will be the library, the large capacity of which will meet the needs of the university for many years. A circle of columns will support the gallery, about twenty-five feet from the floor, and the space outside the circle is subdivided into alcoves. On the gallery there is another circle of alcoves, and in the coving of the dome there will be obtained a fifth set.

Four wings or terrace rooms of one story, forming a sort of base from which the rotunda rises, will be erected. They will extend on either side of the southern and northern porticees, and are to be connected at their ends by arcades,

PHYSICAL ANDMECHANICAL LABORATORIES, ALINE IN OUTWARD APPEARANCE

- A Coner - Squ

ACADEMICAL BUILDING INCENTRE, WITH ROUSS PHYSICAL LABORATORY AND MECHANICAL LABORATORY ONEITHER SIDE.

the lawn. The roofs will be flat fireproof decks, I remembered them and the angels came down to take

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them out of torture. She said that idea comforted

beauty pure and simple, that appeals to the people,

A little boy playing on a guitar, or a beautiful girl,

a study of one of the great masters, is much sought

unconsciously teach patience or fortitude, or show how unremitting care and industry alone accomplish

better than any amount of preaching could do.

cmestic task her eyes stray to the picture and she

"Sometimes it is a picture with no significant or

southern outlook, and the charming effect of space and lightness produced by this opening will be preserved.

About \$250,000 will be spent on the new buildings alone, and by September next the University of Virginia will be more liberally and amply fitted for its work than it has been in the past. All friends of learning must rejoice that this foundation of Jefferson is to rise again so promptly into full vigor and activity, and there is no doubt that persons of generous mind and ample means will seek from time to time to extend this monument to a great American statesman. to a great American statesman.

PICTURES LENT TO THE POOR.

A CIRCULATING GALLERY WHICH ADDS BRIGHTNESS TO MANY A HOME.

The subtle influence of pictures as an uplifting element in the homes of the poor is being tried by the Friendly Aid Society at its new home, No. 248 East Thirty-fourth-st. The success of the circulating picture gallery at Hull House, Chicago, induced the promoters of Friendly Aid House, which is under the guardianship of All Souls' Unitarian Church, to introduce such a feature among the others of its settlement. The circulating gallery is now fully under way, and those in charge are well pleased with its

"Of all the nationalities that form the membership, the Italians are the most genuinely appreclative," said the woman in charge. ove the pictures for their own sake, and I am often asked to save such and such a picture for a particular member in case he or she should not be here early enough on the evening of distribution to secure it. Some of the pictures are prime favorites and those who come earliest get first choice. A membership fee of 10 cents is charged, and the picture selected is either exchanged or renewed at the end of two weeks. We send a man round to the different homes to collect the pictures on the morn-ing that the two weeks expire; that plan insures their all being here at the same time for distribution. If the members returned them themselves as they take them away they would straggle in at all times during the evening, and there would be no complete list to choose from for fresh distribution.

"I am surprised sometimes at the interest taken in the subjects," she went on. "A buxom, roundfaced Italian woman chose Doré's 'Christian Martyrs' the first time that she made a selection, and listened attentively to the little synopsis I gave of the story and the painter's meaning. fore the first week was out she came and asked me In her broken English to tell her the story of the picture again, that she might tell her husband, who liked the picture much. I spoke to her as plainly as I could, so that she might thoroughly understand, and learned that what made her so pleased with the subject was the idea that in the night, when those poor beast-bitten Christians were forgotten by all the which are the continuation of the colonnades on | world as they lay there in the Colosseum, Heaven

BLOSSOMS FOR EASTER.

FLORISTS WILL BE BUSY ALL THIS WEEK

FLOWERS ARE USED NOT ONLY FOR CHURCE DECORATION, BUT AS TOKENS AMONG FRIENDS-BOUTONNIERES AND COR-SAGE BOUQUETS PLENTIFUL As midsummer is to the purveyor of ice, mid-

winter to the furrier and Christmas to the toy

er, so is Easter to the florist, the harvest time of the whole year. A decade ago it was only in the churches that the spring blossoms held carnival, clustered about the altar in token of gladness and rejoicing. To-day every home has its significant Easter garland or nosegay, and every man, woman and child secures, if possible, a floral emblem typical of the season. So great is the number of offerings ex-changed in greeting that the florists work for two entire nights and days previous to the momentous Sunday, and preparations are made by the growers looking to the supply of this demand fully a year Boxes and baskets of cut flowers by the hundreds must be artistically grouped, put up and addressed, the thousands of growing, blosso plants must be tied up and protected, so that transportation will not jostle their delicate blooms, and, when Easter morning is dawning over the city and devoted church members are rising so as to be on hand to put the final touches on their altar gar-lands, the florist and his assistants are just going to bed, having commissioned the van drivers to dis-tribute their lovely freight. "We deliver hundreds of plants—geraniums, heliotropes, tulips and jon-quils—on the east side of town," said a fashionable Fifth-ave florist. "It is not uncommon for a single customer to order 500 or more of these growing plants during the week before Easter, to be distributed on that day, to worthy people whom he wishes to please. As for social offerings there never was a time when flowers were so liberally used. Every member of the family is remembered—even the mothers-in-law, the grandmothers and the baby in the cradle. Look at the long procession up and down Fifth-ave. on Easter, and you will see scarcely a woman or a girl without a corsage bouquet, and hardly a man or boy whose coat lappel does not boast a blossom.

"Then there is the long array of window plants on the fashionable streets. All those must be looked out for, and no matter how vigorous and healthy a plant may be it must have a bloom on it for Easter or it is a failure. All this rage for Easter flowers has come about in the last six years. We have got plant-growing nowadays down to such & science that we can tell the very day that the flower will open. If a lily, for instance, gives promise of blooming too early we put it in a room that is dark and cold, that will keep it back. If it seems likely to bloom later than is wanted, we give it a sunny ex-posure for a certain number of hours or days. By watching the plants carefully, and shifting them from one condition to another, we generally manage to have the blooms just at the desired time. That magnificent azulea, for instance, I don't want to use for two weeks; if I leave it where it is it will open in four days, but fortunately there is such a thing as putting it where it will stand in statu quo and neither advance nor recede until released from those

"It takes four years for a lily built to grow large and mature enough to produce its full quota of flowers, and it takes two years to grow a lily builb at all fit for transportation.
"Yes, Bermuda is the ideal climate for hily grow-

ing; in fact, for all bulb growing. Holland, the great bulb-exporting country, is practically ex-hausted now, and a fortune awaits the man or wom-an who will introduce glass houses in Bermuda and go regularly into the flower-growing business as it is conducted in New-York. The soil there just suits for the purpose, and the sun shines with such persistent power that hothouses could be kept at an even or a high temperature without the aid of artificial heat, and at a mere nominal expense compared with this country. Tulips grow profusely in Bermuda. Heat judiciously managed is our prime factor; those dwarf French lilacs so much admired can be forced

in twenty days to bloom luxuriantly.
"What is next to the lily in popularity? The azalea, then the more choice specimens of hydranges and zenesta. Spirea, too, is a favorite, and the Roman hyacinths and all the bulbous plants.
"Calias? Yes, they are stately and pure-looking.

but twenty Annunciation lilles are used where one calla is called for. The callas look best in the shaded light of a church or cathedral; they are seldom in demand for window plants, unless by some old-fashioned dame who likes one style of flowers. "By-the-way, a change has taken place in the management of church decoration. A subscription was formerly taken up for the Easter flowers, and rome artistic spirit in the congregation devised the mode of arrangement, or else a florist's services were engaged to insure a tasteful display. It has now become an almost universal custom in wealthy congregations for individual members to send distinct contributions to the church on Easter eve, all of these being growing, blooming plants, accompanied by the giver's card, intimating what use shall be made of the gift when its services at the church are over. Sometimes it is sent to a hospital or again to the home of some needy friend, who will appreciate the unwonted luxury. It is usual, too, for the interested givers to meet just before Easter and stipulate what they intend to send, so that there will be neither an oversupply nor a lack of certain plants and loose flowers.

"Mrs. G. and I will provide all the cut flowers for the altar," vounteers one lady; another undertakes to furnish a certain number of azaleas, another to send two or three lars of Soutch heather or mignonette. A committee is appointed and the chairman visits a florist and orders fifteen or twenty palms and such quantity of smilax and ferns as may be reeded, which order insures the attention of the florist, who gives timely aid in suggesting the distinct contributions to the church on Easter eve, all after. Then among our subjects we have those that

anything. One little study of a fisherman is always in demand. It shows an old weather-beaten man and a young eager boy. The boy has hook and balt just ready to fling in the water. 'Steady!' says the old man, with a restraining hand on the boy's shoulder, and the picture conveys the lesson of patience "These people lead busy lives; they have no time

visits a florist and orders fifteen or twenty palms and such quantity of smilax and ferns as may be reeded, which order insures the attention of the florist, who gives timely aid in suggesting the disposal of the plants and flowers at hand. Devoted women, however, who have always luxuriated in the privilege, reserve the right to arrange the last supply of cut blossoms themselves on Easter morning, and they rise at 4 or 5 o'clock for that purpose. "To many people," went on the flower dealer, "a rose is a rose, and an azalea an azalea; they cannot understand why they have to give twice as much for a flower bought at this shop as they would give for it down in Fulton-st. or over on Third-ave. The answer is that all the flowers brought into this city are sorted over and graded carefully. Only the perfect specimens—those absolutely without blemishcome to the first class florists; a hyacinth that is nipped on the edges, a rose that has not its full quota of leaves, a liby opened too long, or a tulip with blight on its petals is discarded, along with the imperfect carnations and crumpled violets; these go to the florists whose customers are less fastidious, or else they are vended by the street-seller. Most of the violets that go out from this house for corsage bouquets will cost \$1, and often cut Bermuda lilles with bring nearly \$2 apiece. In regard to potted plants an ordinary specimen that may be bought in an inferior shop for \$0 cents, when seen in perfection with profuse blooms and vigorous foliage, will readily command \$5 and more, according to size. We get from \$2 to \$4 for choice hydrangeas and from \$5 to \$7 for lilacs. Palms are worth from \$3 to \$7. Any one wishing to keep a growing plant received as a gifting ode condition should remove the paper and ribbon which make it look so festive and submerge the far in water, allowing it to stand long enough for the roots to absorb all the moisture they need, Hydrangeas require watering twice a day if kept in a warm room; although the plant is naturally hardy, the ar ome here to our sewing classes and other affairs took a picture, one of Fra Angelica's angels, and the mother if she objected to the picture's

him by, but I like this picture of the angel much better. "We were all so glad to note the wonderful change in her taste, which her resolve to buy the picture indicated. The idea of the coffin plate was hideous, revolting, associating the image of the lost little one only with what was earthly and perishable; the angel made her think of the happy transition for her child. We have repeated evidence of the good work our circulating gallery is doing and realize more and more each day that even the filterate and wretched feel the need of something beside bodily comforts. The Angelus' and Raphael's 'St Margaret' are great favorites, and I have told the story of St. Margaret's temptations over and over to eager listeners. All seem so interested that we have decided to write a brief sketch of each picture plainly on the back of it that the members of the gallery may study it at their leisure." A LESSON IN NATURAL HISTORY. From The Kansas City Star.

FROM THE WESTERN LITERARY CENTRE.

From The Chicago Tribune. Charles Lamb was known to his reading con-temporaries as "Ella." Even to the present day many persons suppose "Ella's Essays" were written by a person of that name.

WHY THE PILLAR SMILED. From The Louisville Commercial.

From The Louisville Commercial.

A minister in charge of a country congregation not long ago received a call to a pulpit in Louisville, and, as is the correct thing in ecclesiastical circles, he took time to deliberate, saying that he must pray for light. In the course of a few days the minister's youngest son came to the city on a visit, and one day met one of the principal pillars of the church of which his father had been asked to take charge. The pillar smiled benevolently, and asked:

"Well, Johnnie, has your father decided yet whether he will come with us?"

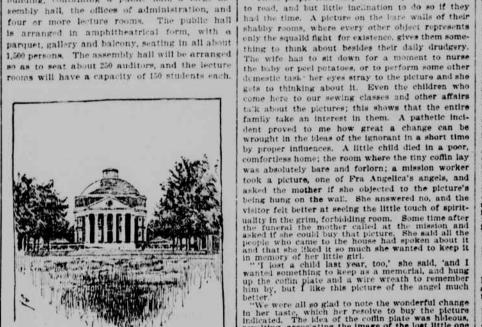
"Well, sir," answered Johnnie, "I believe paw is still praying for light, but most of the things are packed."

And then the pillar smiled the smile of a pillar packed."
And then the pillar smiled the smile of a pillar who has had experience in inviting ministers to leave poor for better charges.

BICYCLES AND MAD DOGS.

From The London Standard.

Another use has been found for the bleycle. On one of the outer boulevards a cyclet recently perceived a policeman driving a cart and urging on the horse at a rapid pace. Upon questioning the constable the wheelman was told that he was endeavoring to overtake a rabid dog which had got ahead of the trap. Borrowing the gendarme's sabre the cyclist hastily mounted his machine and sped away in pursuit of the enraged animal. On coming up with the dog he charged it while still on his bleycle, and had the satisfaction of running the creature through with his weapon, killing it on the spot. The cyclist's plucky action was much applauded by the crowd that had been attracted by so unwested. From The London Standard.



protected by a moulded balustrade, and will thus

destroyed by fire and has been removed, there

will be a sunken garden for shrubbery and flow-

is about 216 feet broad by 700 feet long,

and is formed in three terraces. This is

to be extended at its southern end by the

addition of a terrace court 300 feet broad by 200

feet deep from north to south, and the new build-

ings will occupy the three sides of this court. On

the southern side will stand the main academical

building, containing a public hall, a large as-

form a handsome promenade surrounding the her.

building. Between the wings will be two

THE ROTUNDA, LOOKING NORTH.

On the eastern side of the court will stand the physical laboratory, to be erected mainly from the gift of Charles Broadway Rouss, of New-York City, and to be called the Rouss Physical Laboratory. It will contain a large amphitheatrical lecture hall, apparatus-room, a general laboratory for junior students, smaller special constant temperature experiments, a room for optical work, and a tower for pendulum operations and various other delicate physical experiments. In the basement there will be space for the workshop, motors, dynamos, and so on.

On the west side will stand the mechanical laboratory, on the first floor of which will be found the drawing-room, the electrical laboratory and two lecture-rooms; and on the second floor a room for dynamos and engines, shops for work in wood and iron, and the laboratory for experimental work in civil and mechanical engineering. In an annex sufficiently removed from the mechanical laboratory are placed the boilers, foundries and forges, and rooms for fuel and supplies. The fagades of the three buildings surounding the new court are of pure classical style, and the buildings themselves will be constructed so as to harmonize as perfectly as possible with the existing system originated by Jefferson. The character of the land on the southern side of the lawn allows the academical and the physical and mechanical buildings to appear as only one story in height, whereas on account of the steep grade they actually count for practical purposes as two. The charm of the present close and the domination of the rotunda are therefore preserved. The grades of the successive terraces are to be so arranged that a spectator standing.

FROM THE WESTERN LITERARY CENTRE

From The Kansas City Star.

A glided steer above the cupola on the Exchange Building at the stockyards tells the cattlemen which way the wind and yet it remains a contradiction to the belief that cattemen are observers of the hards and set of what the wind, humps his back and waits for fair weather," answered the plainsman. "There's a steer that doesn't," said his questioner, building at the stockyards it is the cattlemen which way the wind to the wind, humps his back and waits for fair weather," answered the plainsman. "There's a steer that doesn't," said his questioner, in the transition of the support was a steer and own hat its bear w laboratories for advanced students, a room for found the drawing-room, the electrical laboratory and two lecture-rooms; and on the second floor a room for dynamos and engines, shops for work in wood and iron, and the laboratory for experimental work in civil and mechanical engineering. In an annex sufficiently removed from the mechanical laboratory are placed the boilers, foundries and forges, and rooms for fuel and supplies. The faqudes of the three buildings surounding the new court are of pure classical style, and the buildings themselves will be constructed so as to harmonize as perfectly as possible with the existing system originated by Jefferson. The character of the land on the southern side of the lawn allows the academical and the physical and mechanical buildings to appear as only one story in height, whereas on account of the steep grade they actually count for practical purposes as two. The charm of the present close and the domination of the rotunda are therefore preserved. The grades of the successive terraces are to be so arranged that a spectator standing in the foet of the rotunda stand will be the are to be so arranged that a spectator standing at the foot of the rotunda steps will see the façade of the Academic Building complete from the base of the columns to the top of the pedi-ment, and yet at the same time the height of the buildings will not be such as to close in the